

ABSTRACT

NEED FOR STUDY

Benign tumors of the esophagus are rare and are usually more bothersome than harmful. The most common type of benign tumor is a leiomyoma which occurs in people between 30 and 60 years of age. Other tumors consist of fibrovascular polyps and Schwannomas. Benign tumors of esophagus are very rare comprising of 0.5 to 0.8% of esophageal tumors.

Carcinoma of esophagus is the ninth most common cancer in the world. Numerous studies have demonstrated that in developing countries cigarette smoking and alcohol consumption are the most important predisposing factors for esophageal carcinoma.

Barrett's esophagus is a consequence of chronic gastro esophageal reflux disorder which is the most important risk factor for adenocarcinoma of esophagus. Several esophageal motility disorders have been implicated in the development of esophageal carcinoma.

Carcinogenic effects of tobacco and alcohol are far more pronounced for squamous cell carcinoma than for adenocarcinoma.

Recent epidemiological studies have found that obesity (measured as body mass index) is another strong risk factor for esophageal carcinoma squamous cell carcinoma seen in association with smoking and alcohol.

In India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka the high incidence of esophageal Carcinoma has been linked with chewing of tobacco with or without betal nut, betel leaf and salked lime.

In certain regions of the world exceedingly high rates of esophageal carcinoma have been attributed to other environmental and dietary / nutritional factors. These include ingestion of hot foods and beverages, nitrate containing preserved food, deficiencies in essential nutrients (carotene, riboflavin, vitamin C and E) and minerals (zinc and selenium) as well as infrequent consumption of fruits and vegetables.

- Esophageal carcinoma has an insidious onset with poor prognosis.
- As more advanced facilities for investigation are now available it is possible for early diagnosis and management of esophageal carcinoma.

OBJECTIVE

This study evaluated incidence, age/sex distribution, various etiological factors, clinic-pathological characteristics & outcome of surgery in malignant tumours of esophagus.

METHODS

A prospective study was conducted for Malignant esophageal tumors in Department of General Surgery, Govt Rajaji Hospital, Madurai

RESULTS

A total of 30 patients were operated with age group (40-87yrs) with 20 males and 10 females (ratio 2:1) squamous cell ca (70%), Adenocarcinoma (30%) carcinoma of Lower third esophagus is more common. (>70%) of patients belonged to blood group A (46.6%) or O (26.6%). Tobacco Smoking/chewing, alcohol consumption, chronic irritation and pre-existing esophageal conditions are strong risk factors.

CONCLUSION

Tobacco, smoking/chewing and alcohol consumption and preexisting esophageal conditions are strong risk factors. Disease shows predominance to male, more common in 5th & 6th decade of life. Squamous cell carcinoma is more common than adenocarcinoma. Different surgical approach has no effect on duration of hospital stay, mortality or survival.

Keywords

Carcinoma esophagus; Adenocarcinoma; Squamous cell carcinoma